

(at) Almagest)

NOEL MEMORIAL LIBRARY
APR 07 2000
LSU SHREVEPORT

April 6, The Year 2000

The Almagest
Like the Archangel Michael's big fiery sword

Volume 37, Number 8

Kappa Sigmas suspended until 2004 Will appeal decision, are exploring lawsuit

by William Aaron
McKechnie and
Brian Rogers

LSUS Kappa Sigma fraternity was found guilty of hazing by the Student Affairs Committee on February 7. The fraternity has been placed on suspension until 2004.

The incident began on November 30 at 3 a.m., when Kappa Sigma president Chris Lee and Steven Galbraith and four pledges were at fellow fraternity member Jay Emmons' house.

Shreveport Police were dispatched to Emmons' residence after receiving a call from Emmons' next door neighbor.

The neighbor stated in the police report, that he called the police after hearing noises that could be "heard a block away."



Lee



Galbraith



Raines



Burden

Although finding the Emmons' residence trashed with egg and ketchup on the floor, walls and on members of the fraternity, the police report stated no one was found hurt or hazed, from the pledges viewpoint. Lee was ticketed with disturbing the peace. Later, the neighbor

cal sciences and Chair of the Student Affairs Committee said the committee placed the Kappa Sigma and Phi Delta Theta fraternities on suspension during the Fall semester in 1998, until the Spring semester, after a fight between members of both fraternities broke out among them and

dropped all charges, and Lee was given probation by the District Attorney. Beverly Burden, associate professor of Biological Sciences and Chair of the Student Affairs Committee said the committee placed the Kappa Sigma and Phi Delta Theta fraternities on suspension during the Fall semester in 1998, until the Spring semester, after a fight between members of both fraternities broke out among them and a gun was discharged. In a written letter to the Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs, Kappa Sigma Alumni Advisor, and the Director of Student Activities, Burden stated she felt it was conceivable that someone could have been hurt or killed.

On December 1, Lee was called to the university for not filing reports on the fraternity's monthly activities.

Kappa Sigma was told, Burden said, by the SAC to turn in monthly reports to the SAC, because the fraternity had "warranted supervision by not showing they had the act together."

Burden did not receive a monthly report from the months of September, October, November, or December.

"It was a stipulation of their probation, and they still didn't turn the reports in."

During this first meeting between the SAC and the Kappa Sigma fraternity, the SAC brought in Emmons' neighbor. Emmons' neighbor explained to the board members that on November 30, he heard sounds "like someone being sodomized."

(continued on page 7)

SGA elections see minor improvement

by Scott Balcerzak

The results from the March 20th-26th Student Government Association (SGA) elections that were announced this week showed that there was a slight increase in the total number of students voting from last Fall. While last Fall's elections resulted in a total of 142 voters, this Spring's elections had a total of 188. During the April 3rd SGA meeting, current SGA President Stephanie McKinzie attributed the increase to the efforts of the LSUS chapter of the Public Relations Stu-

dents Society of America (PRSSA), who took charge of promoting the elections earlier in the semester.

While the amount of voters is still a small percentage in a school of nearly 4,200 students, the increase was still considered a minor victory due to the lack of student interest in an election in which many of the candidates were running unopposed. The election results are as follows: the new president is Jason Penry, the vice president is Amy Redel, the senators of the College of Liberal Arts are Jerry Sumrall and Erica Eakin, the College of Sci-

ence are Madiha Jamil and Jena Martino, the College of Education is Parris DiPaul, and the College of Business is Michael Norton. Due to the lack of candidates, the SGA will still have to appoint two new senators into the Colleges of Education and Business.

The three SGA parking spaces were raffled to all who participated in the elections. The winners are:

1. Michelle Skupin
2. Darrel Webb
3. Melissa Wichmann

BASEBALL
The Pilots full coverage returns next week.

GO PILOTS!

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The Almagest

(“al-meh-jest”. n.) Arabic: “The Majestic”
any of several medieval treatises on a branch of knowledge (as the
9th century Arabic translation of Ptolemy’s Greek work on astronomy)
- Webster’s Third New International Dictionary



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EDITOR IN CHIEF



MATTHEW MORRIS
ASSISTANT EDITOR



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ENTERTAINMENT
EDITOR



JOHN TABOR
OMBUDSMAN

The Almagest is a member of the Southeastern Journalism Conference, American College Press Association, and the Columbia Scholastic Press Association

From The Editor

We at the Almagest would like to welcome the students and faculty back after spring break. We would also like to thank the wonderful staff here at the university who worked while everyone else had the week off.

I myself spent my spring break re-reading the Constitution. It seems that everyone I talk to these days is a First Amendment expert. I found it remarkable that the three letters we chose to print this week all preface that the first amendment is to be respected, but...

The three people whose letters we printed all seem to believe wholeheartedly that the first amendment is a good thing. That is, as long as it conforms to what they think is good taste.

I just kept re-reading the Constitution and the Bill of Rights, I even checked the Declaration of Independence, but I simply could not find a definition of good taste. I spent my entire break cross-referencing “couth,” and “less antagonistic,” against the documents enshrined by the ethos of our country. It seems our forefathers didn’t write any sort of emergency clause for bad taste, or lack of common sense.

Let me stop there. I don’t want to burn any bridges here. It is true that the Almagest editorials are written with sarcasm. But editorials, like letters to the editor, should express clear opinion. Opinions are presented within the confines of this page so that they won’t seep too deeply into what we hope will be objective stories about straight news.

The two forms of writing are different and should be treated differently. Also, a feature story, whether it is about how to gloss a hardwood floor or the best condoms to buy, should be viewed under a different light.

When Aaron Sartori’s articles are brought up, I almost always hear the buzzwords, “tabloid,” and “The Enquirer.” Aaron Sartori’s articles, in the opinion of this paper, expand how we think about this world. Yes, they are typically features. Yes, they are typically a brand of humor that might not be widely accepted. But the articles are not incorrect in the facts they convey, even if the tone is irreverent. To infer that Aaron Sartori’s articles and pictures are “stupid” or lacking in “common sense,” is a valid point of view and the Almagest is happy to print anyone’s opinion to that effect. But in the collective mind of The Almagest, the articles and pictures exhibit a humor that is appreciated in a forum that many said was incapable of fun and a loyal readership.

In honor of April Fool’s Day we put together a satirical mock up of a front page on the back page of this issue. Parody and satire are two of the most broadly defined forms of the Free Press.

It may be considered by many to be poor taste, but we had fun putting it together. If you’re wondering about the legalities of such a page, just watch any number of talk-shows on television tonight. The most powerful people in this country are mocked openly, and while you may not find it humorous, I think it is agreed that it is healthy for a nation to laugh. If you don’t like it don’t watch it, don’t read it, or continue to write in to protest it.

To clarify one last point, the Almagest is not the publication that represents the university. The LSUS News represents the university. Please address your problems with how this university is represented in print to the public relations office on second floor of the Admin. Bldg

One point we did think was worth repeating, we at the Almagest would also appreciate it if common sense was used in making decisions about the representation of this university. Bravo!

Got a story?

Call the Almagest at 797-5328 Email us at almagest@pilot.lsus.edu

The Almagest Letters Policy

The Almagest requests your reactions through Letters to the Editor. Letters should be typed and double spaced. Please include your class and major field of study. Letters should be submitted to *The Almagest* office, BH 344, by noon on the Friday preceding the Thursday publication date. Obscene, libelous and anonymous letters will not be printed. *The Almagest* reserves the right to edit letters. □

Letters to the Editor

PRSSA, SGA deserve credit

Brian,

I am writing in response to your editorial comments regarding the SGA elections in today's issue of *The Almagest*. I have appreciated the efforts of you and your staff over the past couple of semesters even when I didn't agree with some of the content of the paper. After all, as you pointed out in your editorial, the free flow of ideas is essential to democracy. However, I feel that your comments about the SGA elections went too far.

As a member of the PRSSA, I've seen the work that has gone into increasing student awareness about and participation in the SGA elections. You stated in your editorial that you were happy to give people credit for trying, but I don't feel that you gave proper credit to the members of the PRSSA and the SGA who have tried to make a difference in this year's election process. We can probably all agree that the system has its flaws, but getting people involved at a commuter school like LSUS is difficult. Students here are often burdened by concerns about work and family. Therefore, I feel that even if our efforts to increase awareness about the SGA and the elections only reached a handful of people those efforts were not in vain. Change has to begin somewhere.

So give us a little credit Brian. At least we were trying.

Emiley Barnes
Senior, Speech Communication Major

Undermining unappreciated

Dear Editor,

I am writing to you in reference to the article by Aaron Sartori entitled "Feminism feels good" found on the 3rd page of the March 23rd *Almagest*. Even though I have had a problem with the subjects in which Mr. Sartori has chosen in the past, I did not have any concerns with the subject of this article. My concerns deal with the choice of the picture that accompanied the article.

I am an admissions counselor here at LSUS. I am paid to recruit new students to this campus. One of my duties is to give tours to potential students and many times their parents as well. On March 23, 2000, I was giving a tour to a potential student and her mother. As we were entering the Business/Education building we met the person responsible for distributing the newspaper. As we passed him, he proceeded to hand each of us the latest edition of the *Almagest* as would be expecting. We continued on the tour and upon completion of the tour they left my company. I now had time to sit at my desk and glance at the newspaper. As I opened the paper, I was horrified to see a picture of a pinup staring me in the face. All that I could think about was what could possibly be going through the mind of the mother of the prospective student that just left my office when she opened up the paper.

I know that this is a school newspaper intended for LSUS students. Also, I know all about freedom of the press. However, I also know of a little thing called courtesy. And I feel that Mr. Sartori or whomever was responsible for placing that picture in the paper showed none. You, the *Almagest* staff, produce a paper for campus students; however, you and I know that it is not only LSUS students that read the paper. Recruiting is not just my responsibility. I rely on staff, faculty, and sometime students to help attract students to this campus. I do not appreciate when my hard work is undermined by acts such as this. I would appreciate it if common sense was used in making decisions about the publication that represents our university. Thank you.

Respectfully,

Micheal Valentine
Admissions counselor

Editorials, articles "appalling"

Dear Mr. Rogers:

Each week I am more and more appalled at the contents of *The Almagest*. First, the editorials: You seem to genuinely not understand why people complain so much. Perhaps it is the sarcasm dripping from each editorial; it certainly does not persuade anyone to see your point of view. While I sincerely respect your right to freedom of speech, it seems like you could state your point of view in a more constructive and less antagonistic manner.

Second, as for the articles that have been running lately, I am sure they are causing more people to read *The Almagest* than ever before. People just can't wait to see what you're going to do next. However, the National Enquirer has lots of readers, too. I sincerely hope that this is not the type of "rag paper" you are aspiring to become. This last issue was too much. What on earth does a "pin-up girl" have to do with the article on domestic violence? To me, it cheapened the whole article and sent a conflicting message. It was not so much insulting to women as it was just plain stupid. It's not that I can't accept opposing views. If these were articles expressing political views or such, I would read them and it wouldn't matter whether or not I agree. However, these articles serve no purpose other than to entertain, incite reactions and inflame tempers.

Please, please understand what a great honor it is to be a reporter or editor of a campus newspaper. With that honor comes responsibility. *The Almagest* is a service provided for the students of this campus. Therefore, any student complaint should be valuable input to you. I know you have the right to print whatever you want in the name of free speech, but please try to report facts in an objective, non-sensational way. You would do well to become what Shakespeare penned: "Those who have the power and choose not to use it." Instead of printing wild, irresponsible articles (that are insulting to many people) just because you can, why not reach beyond that. This is what separates the good journalists from the bad. I hope this will shed some light on why so many people have been complaining. Having said that, I will look forward to the next issue and some responsible journalism.

Sincerely,

Susan J. Reeks
Junior, English/History Major

Library hours added Sundays

by Scott Balcerzak

As of April 2nd, Noel Memorial Library's hours of operation on Sundays were extended to 9:00 p.m. The change is a compromise of a January 31st proposal submitted by the Student Government Association (SGA).

Noel Memorial Library's hours of operation on Sunday were originally 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

The original proposal, which was deemed too costly by the library, would have extended the library's hours of operation by more than 17 hours a week and would have left the library open 24 hours a day during Finals Week.

Student Senator Jena Martino, who drafted the original proposal, believes that the compromise will be beneficial to the student body.

"Basically, Sunday night is a big study night," Martino said. "The extension will offer a great improvement to all the students."

Dr. Alan Gabehart, Assistant Dean of Noel Memorial Library, said that student use of these extended hours will be important in deciding if the extension will be continued during the upcoming Fall semester.

"We will monitor the usage throughout the Spring," Gabehart said. "If a large enough percentage of students is shown, we will continue it through the Fall." Gabehart also



added that the change this semester will not affect the library's hours during the Summer.

In the past, student use of the library has been a major consideration when discussing the possibility of an extension of hours. During a March 13th SGA meeting, Gabehart presented the senators with statistics which showed the largest amount of patrons using the library on the days which would have been unaffected by the original proposal. The figures also showed that large amounts of the library's patrons are not LSUS students.

"We need student support on this," Martino said. "If we get enough people in the library during these hours, they might even extend Sunday's hours till midnight in the Fall."

The library currently offers limited service between the hours of 9:00 p.m. to midnight, Mondays through Thursdays. The compromised proposal will add an extra four hours of limited service on Sundays. As a result, less library employees will be needed during the extended time.

Audra Muslow, a Senior English Major, believes that the extension of hours will be used by LSUS students. "I am a transfer student," Muslow said.

"And when I attended Centenary College, the library's hours there were longer on the weekends. Those hours were very accommodating to the students."

Problem from Hell



Find all two digit numbers such that the sum of that number and the number obtained by reversing the digits is a perfect square.

Answer to last week's problem: Find the remainder upon division by 5 of the number $(1!+2!+3!+\dots+64)^2 = (1!+2!+3!+4!+5k)^2$

$$\begin{aligned} (1!+2!+3!+\dots+64)^2 &= (1!+2!+3!+4!+5k)^2 \\ &= (33+5k)^2 \\ &= (3+5\cdot 6+5k)^2 \\ &= (3+5\cdot m)^2 \\ &= 3^2 + 2\cdot 3\cdot 5m + (5m)^2 \\ &= 4+5+5n \end{aligned}$$

Which clearly has remainder 4 when divided by 5. The number 64 is arbitrary. The remainder is determined by the first four terms.

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Phone system to be functional in 4 to 6 weeks

by Russell Boswell

On March 2, LSUS switched over to the new phone system Lucent Technologies installed to replace the former, non-Y2K compliant phone system that had been in operation since 1978. The transition is still in process and is estimated to be complete within four to six

weeks.

The new system is digital, rather than analog.

This means faster, more efficient performance. The new system also has several features formerly unavailable to most LSUS staff, such as automated menus, voice mail, and caller I.D.

The installation process cost approximately \$327,000. Funding was provided by the state.

All phones are working properly, except for cable problems with the digital phones in the Business Education Building and Bronson Hall. These problems are expected to be taken care of within four to six weeks.

Tekken 3 will come to LSUS

With the coming of Spring Fling, many college video gamers can prepare themselves for the second annual LSUS video game tournament. This semester's featured game: *Tekken 3: The King of the Iron Fist Tournament*.

Because of the late advertisement of last semester's *Street Fighter Alpha 3* tournament, the attendance was under fifteen people. This semester, the Video Game Tournament Team hopes that the attendance will be much greater, complete with better prizes, stereo surround sound, and more seasoned players with a thirst for victory and chaos.

In an interview, organizer Cedric Rhodes said, "Spring Fling and Fall Fest are always fun to attend, but I thought that maybe we could add something that would make them more interesting, fulfilling, and exciting.



Rhodes

With the Dreamcast and the upcoming release of the second Playstation, we can expect to see some heated competition in future tournaments. This could be the start of a new tradition on LSUS campus."

If you have a question or suggestion concerning the video game tournaments, the VGT Team is always helpful, and open for new ideas and opinions. You can email them at . You can also receive useful information about the current tournament, as well general tournament rules and registration information.

The Tekken 3 tournament will be held from 4 to 10 p.m. in the LSUS University Center cafeteria, during Spring Fling, April 16. Admission is free for all spectators, and \$2.00 for all participants. Players are encouraged to bring their own controllers, and prepare for the tournament beforehand.

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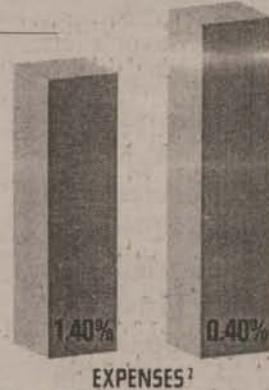
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Hightower, Marsala partners for the community

by William
Aaron McKechnie



The city of Shreveport and LSUS are entering a partnership to help develop the untapped resources of the C. Bickham Dickson park. Citizens of the community and students at LSUS might find the 550-560 acre park under utilized now, but with the scheduled developments in store, the park may see a large growth in activity. "We're entering a cooperative agreement with LSUS to take over the management of the park, and increase its educational opportunities," said Mayor of Shreveport Keith Hightower.

When LSUS Chancellor Vincent Marsala received the Mayor's letter requesting that the university assume the management of the park, Marsala said, "I was interested and excited in the offer, because it's a prime piece of wetland." Marsala believes the partnership with the city will benefit citizens and students alike. "I want to have study and research programs and a number of different activities." The mayor wants an extensive and broad-based strategic planning group. "I suggested about 30 groups, including: Ozark Society, Red River Waterway Committee, Northwest Louisiana Wildlife and

Aquatic Association, Shreveport Green, LSU Agricultural Center, Senator John Breaux and Mary Landrieu, congressman Jim McCrery, Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts of America, City of Shreveport Bird Study Group, SPAR, and Sci-Port." Representatives of LSUS are

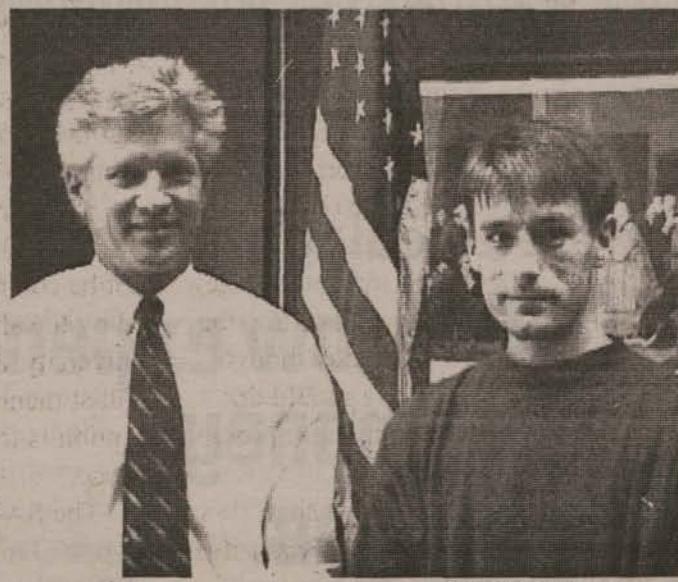


Photo by Liz Swain
Aaron McKechnie and Mayor Hightower share an inspirational moment

the biology and continuing education departments.

The Strategic planning committee is developing a plan that will be turned over to the Steering Committee. The Steering committee consists of representatives of LSUS and the Committee of Shreveport. Currently, the Steering committee has six members, and has only met three times.

Monetarily, LSUS doesn't have to outlay money from the LSUS budget for the project. "We are applying for grants," said Marsala. "In fact, we have filed a proposal for \$1.8 million." With such a broad based involvement, Marsala believes the receiving of federal funding should work to their advantage.

The Cypress Nature Day Center told Marsala they have 15,000 children in their program and Northwest Louisiana Wildlife and Aquatics said they take 30,000 children through their programs annually. "There would be huge utilization of the park if we can get it organized the way we want it," said Marsala.

Marsala said he doesn't want to put up gates or collect fees at the park.

Mayor Hightower said, "I think LSUS has done a good job integrating themselves into the community. I'm hopeful we can grow together and do

more."

One of the last times Mayor Hightower and Marsala teamed up together was in Philadelphia. The two men's efforts helped make Shreveport an All American City. Showcasing projects like Community Renewal, Team Works and Sci-Port as a sample of the most outstanding community projects in Shreveport, Mayor Hightower and Marsala gave extemporaneous answers to a panel of judges and an audience of approximately 1,000 people. When asked what Marsala said in reference to LSUS and the community projects, Marsala said, "We have a responsibility to participate in these community partnerships and that our faculty took an active role in all three of

the activities."

There were 35 cities that participated in the event. "And we were the first to be announced. We couldn't believe it," said Marsala. "Some of the cities were so competitive. They had skits and spent some money on them, but we did ours only by the oral presentations. We had

three of the best projects that exemplified our diverse community participation."

"LSUS is certainly a benchmark in the role of higher education in the city and played an important role in the All American City presentations," said Mayor Hightower.

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Famous U.S. Womens' Alpine Ski Team Diet

During the non-snow off season the US Womens' Alpine Ski Team members used the "Ski Team" diet to lose 20 pounds in two weeks. That's right - 20 pounds in 14 days! The basis of the diet is chemical food action and was devised by a famous Colorado physician especially for the US Ski Team. Normal energy is maintained (very important) while reducing. You keep "full" - no starvation - because the diet is designed that way. It's a diet that is easy to follow whether you work, travel or stay at home. (For men too!)

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Kappa Sigmas suspended until 2004 (continued)

(Continued from page 1)

Lee has said that during this meeting he was told he could not speak or ask questions.

The SAC had Lee and Galbraith write on paper what happened on Nov. 30, Lee says he wrote a bogus story.

"I felt everyone was overreacting to what happened," Lee said.

The SAC after talking to Lee, Galbraith and 13 other Kappa Sigma members about the incident, stated only Lee and Galbraith were involved, and would therefore not charge the fraternity with hazing.

Lee has said that he thought the fraternity was clear of suffering any misconduct penalties, which are outlined in the LSUS Student Handbook.

From those charges, Lee and Galbraith were charged with 5.2b3: Hazing and 5.2b14: Forgery.

Lee and Galbraith decided to be tried together in front of the Student Conduct Board on January 18, after the Spring semester had begun.

Somehow, Lee said, the SCB had the narrative supplement of the Shreveport Police department's police report, which was not public record until after Lee was tried in court, and at that time, Lee had only been arraigned.

Lee asserts, "It was an illegally obtained document."

Three of the four pledges did not make it to the hearing: Jeff Foster, Bo Wellborne and Chris Stripling.

These three pledges were given 50 hours of community

service for not attending the hearing by Raines, who says she told each of the pledges they must attend the hearing, citing 5.2b16 in the Student Handbook.

The SCB found Lee and Steven innocent of both charges.

Brian Hirsch, director of the Career Planning and Placement Center, said he talked to three of the four pledges.

Hirsch said, "I was the first person on campus to hear about the fraternity's incident with the police."

Hirsch said there is no place in the Greek system on campus for hazing, and that he promotes awareness to prevent such an event from happening.

"We are pro-Greek," says Hirsch. "It can be a positive experience when they (fraternities and sororities) live up to the standards that are set."

Hirsch would not comment on whether he believed the SAC's judgment was right or wrong.

Now, Lee and Gal-

braith had to reappear in front of the SAC on Feb. 7.

As students, Lee and Galbraith had been found innocent, but then found themselves being tried as members of the Kappa Sigma fraternity.

It was during the sec-

**Lee asserts,
"It was an
illegally
obtained
document."**

ond SAC hearing that Emmons' neighbor brought information that the fraternity had hanged his dog as an act of retaliation against him for calling the police.

Lee says he was told by Emmons' neighbor that the fraternity was making so much noise that they antagonized the dog to attempt to jump over the fence separating the two yards.

The dog allegedly got

stuck between the fence and a low hanging tree branch, hanging itself. Lee and several other members of the fraternity do not remember Emmons' neighbor having a dog.

Because the man didn't report the incident to the police, the information was deemed unworthy for the SAC to use against Lee and Galbraith, but Lee felt the information gave a bad aura to the already stressful situation.

Lee and 13 other members of the fraternity were asked to write (1)what they knew about the evening of Nov.30, (2)what they knew about the death of the dog and (3)what they thought the fraternity should do about the situation: present and future.

Burden says she believes that the majority of people don't understand what hazing is.

"If someone is made to feel embarrassed, then it is hazing," says Burden.

"We believe hazing took place. After reading

the police report, detailing the eggs and ketchup, it was obvious."

After this meeting, Burden wrote in a report that,

"The Committee was told that the regional director and the current alumni advisor conducted a separate investigation and that they had determined that hazing had not taken place, however, by the end of our meeting, the current alumni advisor was also convinced that that hazing had occurred."

She went on to write, "...this group of men cannot be controlled nor trusted by the alumni or by the university, and the level of cultist mentality and corruption is too deep to purge."

The SAC found the Kappa Sigma fraternity guilty of hazing and revoked the active status of the fraternity until 2004.

Kappa Sigma fraternity is appealing the case to the chancellor.

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(al'ma joke)

April Fool's Day+5, The Year 1900

The Almajoke
Pushing the limits of Satire

Volume 37, Number 8

Portal to Hell engulfs administration bldg

by Brian Rogers

The campus of LSUS has either played host to a paranormal phenomenon of intense proportions, or has been the site of an elaborate hallucination/hoax.

Allegedly, the administration building was sucked into the depths of Hell at approximately 6:66 a.m. on Saturday, April 1.

Allegedly, the chancellor, provost, and three vice chancellors were attending their vernal equinox pentagramic ceremonial blessing in order to consult with the voice of the Board of Regents

spokesperson, Azazel.

During the meeting, a fiery maelstrom appeared over the building.

According to eyewitness, Amanda Skelton, who was driving by at the time,

"An apparition of a 50 foot woman, like Portlandia, appeared and smote the entire building. It was just sort of sucked into the ground."

According to university documents detailing previous blessings, the meeting would have involved the biology dept. goats.

Allegedly, Azazel appeared, and the officials asked his advice on such

issues as the athletic fee, parking, and faculty replacement policy.

Skelton went on to say that immediately preceding the smiting, the building began to exhibit an eerie glow. She continued, "a vortex opened under the building, swallowing it."

Police called to the scene filed reports that the two story structure had "disappeared" into a cavernous void, filled with fire and paved with brimstone.

The next day the administration building was found where it had always been, as if nothing had ever happened.

LSUS to become the Mr. T's

by Russell Boswell

The SGA will put forth a proposal to make Mr. T the official mascot of LSUS later this month. If the proposal is accepted, funding for the undertaking will be provided through an increase in fees.

Despite what some may think, the bulk of the SGA's discussions have not been about student parking, new fees, or lack of candidates for SGA elections. For the past two semesters, the SGA's discussions have primarily been concerned with whether or not LSUS should adopt the chickens living on campus as the official mascot of LSUS. These discussions encountered several difficulties in

how the wording of this would be handled — the LSUS Chickens sounded cowardly, the LSUS Cocks presented obvious problems, and the LSUS Poultry sounded "silly." The SGA contacted Mr. T's agent and found the out-of-work actor would charge only \$20,000 per year for rights to his name and identity for all LSUS and LSUS related activities. This would include rights to all of Mr. T's one-liners, such as "Shut up, foo!" "I pity da foo!" and "I'm gonna getchoo, sucka!" To cover the price, a \$10 increase of the Student Activities fee will be proposed.

Student feedback, regarding the "new" mascot has

been mixed. Taylor Simpson, Biomedical Engineering Major, said "I think Mr. T would make a really great mascot. He's enthusiastic, assertive, and ambitious — all of the things an LSUS student should be." While most students agree Mr. T would be a better mascot than a chicken, some are concerned about the pecuniary side of the issue. Jennifer Soule, English Major, said "Having a mascot would be cool, but it's not worth paying more fees. I mean, we don't even have a football team."

If the proposal is accepted, Mr. T could be LSUS's mascot as early as next fall semester.

Technology fee funds new teledildonics lab

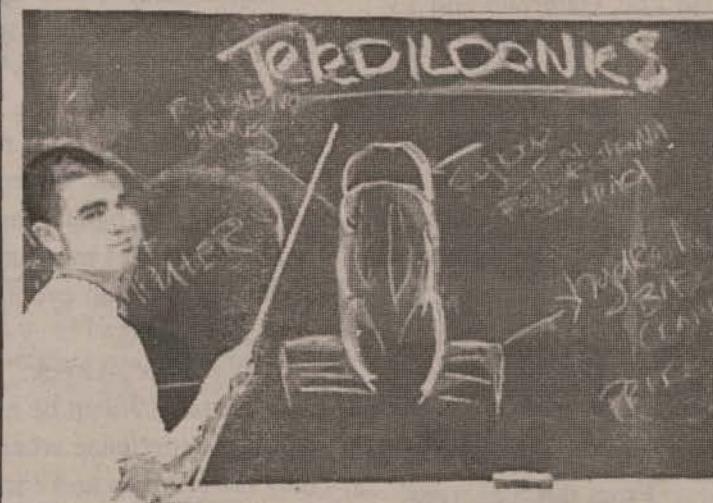


photo by Mark Rogers

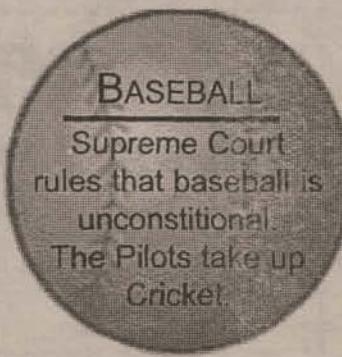
Aaron Sartori diagrams the masterbatory module unit to be used in the new suits.

The teledildonics department is happy to announce the opening of a pioneering new lab here on the fourth floor of the Science building. Because student fees were used to build the lab, all students are encouraged to stop by and try out the new technology.

Teledildonics is the computer mediated interaction between the virtual reality presences of two humans. Although the technology is still in its infancy, research will one day lead to entire body suits that will stimulate all five senses in the desired sexual manner.

Until the leap in technology becomes a reality, we will have to settle for penis stimulators and dildos controlled by software interfaces responsive to other users.

Despite providing stimulation for people with incurable STDs, the advancement of this technology can fuel other exciting developments in virtual reality worlds like providing physically disabled people to enjoy sensations lost to disease or accidents.



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